tarns and the beat of drums were being heard. At about 3, or 4 o'clock in the evening, we seemed to hear the noise of a party of players corning from the direction of the Superinten- dent's bungalow. Thinking that they were approaching the criminal enclosure, we all gathered together at the gates, just within a few minutes the sounds approached very near and a party of maskers arrived, painted all over their bodies in various fantastic coloured designs. We had not to wait for long and they entered by the big gate within our enclosure, dancing in various poses as they came; some five or six in all, amongst whom was to be also seen a little child, about four or five years old. The most prominent amongst the players was a youth who appeared painted as a "tiger'* with black stripes, on a yellow ground, all over his body, wearing a pair of gloves, designed in imitation of the tiger's paw. Some four or five amongst the maskers appeared to hold him from as many different directions chained by means of chains as many in

number,
attached to his neck-collar or ring. On inquiry
I came to learn that this was their "Puli dance",
the word "Puli" in Tamil meaning "tiger**.